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THE YPSILANTI AREA EVENTS AND ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

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JULY 2010

ELVIS
FEST

'The King' Lives in Ypsilanti!

ARTS
BREWS &
TUNES

The 2010 Shadow Art Fair

BEERFEST
For the Love of Beer!

Ypsi
celebs

AND WHERE TO FIND THEM THIS SUMMER

25

Acclaimed artists, urban
camping and JamboMan at this
years Michigan Roots Jamboree



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THE YPSILANTI AREA EVENTS & ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

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i SPY - The Ypsilanti Area Events and Entertainment Guide

Proudly brought to you by Pakmode Publications, LLC and the MOJO News Group

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*Special thanks to Ypsilanti's Dreamland Theater and owner Naia Venturi for use of the Mark Maynard puppet.

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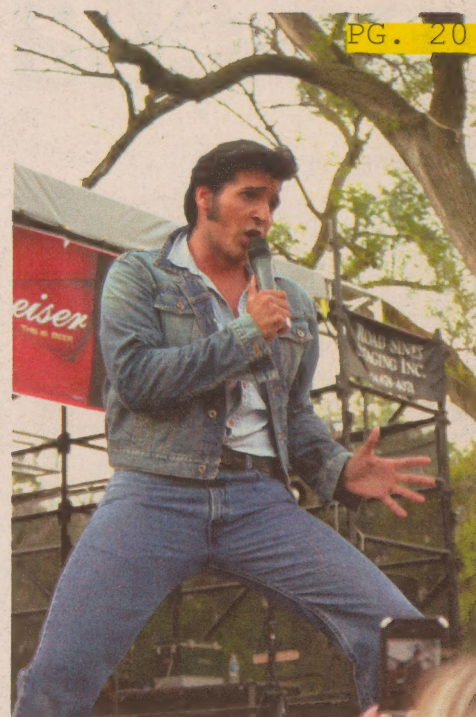
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Exclusive Online Content

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Smarty Catz



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summer festivals bring out the characters in ypsi

JULY ALREADY!?

It seems like we just got done with our premier issue last month, and we couldn't have asked for a better response from the community.

We are so happy to get your positive feedback online, on the street and in cafés and bars around town. By the way the copies were flying off the shelves, we know we've started something good here and we're glad to bring iSPY to Ypsilanti.

As always, we're looking to make iSPY as community driven as possible, so feel free to visit our website and submit your event to our calendar or upload your pictures to the Snap Shot photo gallery. There is a chance that whatever you

submit could be published right here in this magazine.

If you liked what Ypsi had to offer in June, just wait for July. It kicks off with a jam-packed Independence Day weekend and the action continues straight through the month. That's the idea behind this issue's cover photo.

You've got the Michigan Roots Jamboree's official mascot, the renowned Jamboman, and Elvis Presley having a beer with puppet Mark Maynard at the Corner Brewery. Those are some unreal characters that have turned into Ypsi summer legends.

This month's issue is filled to the brim because of events like the Jamboree, Elvisfest and the Shadow Art Fair, which

is hosted at the Corner Brewery by local blogger Mark Maynard and the rest of the Michigan Design Militia.

Even the beer they're drinking will likely be at the Summer Beer Festival this month.

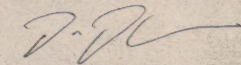
By the way, if you haven't purchased your tickets for the Beer Festival yet you can bring your creativity to the Shadow Art Fair and submit some artwork for the This Is Ypsilanti art contest and be entered to win tickets for free. The art submitted will be featured during the Heritage Festival in August, where you could win more prizes if people like your work.

Please visit our website for more information about the contest. You can submit your art there too, if you can't make it out

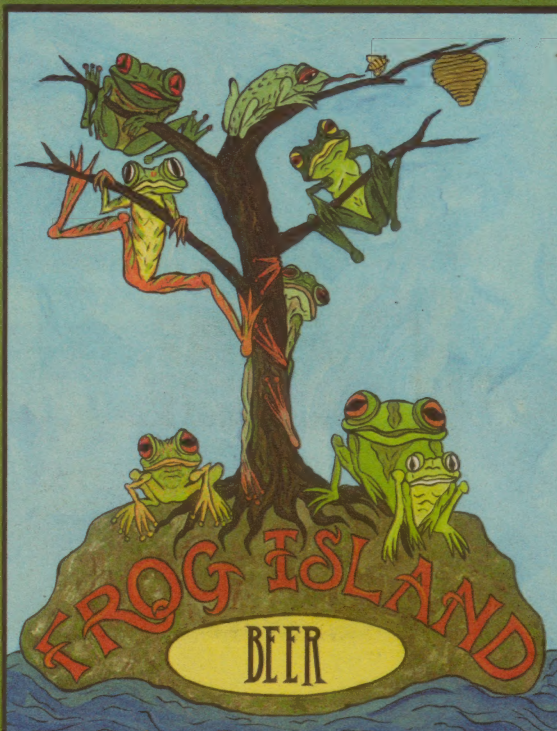
to the Shadow Art Fair.

Speaking of the Heritage Festival, our August issue will be dedicated to Ypsi's signature event. Not only will we serve as your guide to Ypsilanti, but iSPY will be your official guide to the festival.

Again, thank you for the support and for picking up this month's issue. Be sure to check us out in August.



DAN DUCHENE
dan@ispyypsi.com



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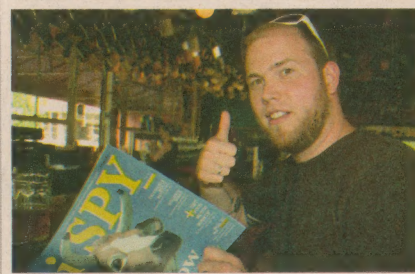
DOMINIQUE BROWN, left, and LEONARD GREEN check out thier dream cars at Depot Town Cruise Nights.

snap shot

I SPY JULY PHOTO GALLERY



JIMMY ALCUMBRACK MCDANIEL, pub manager of Arbor Brewing Company's Corner Brewery, readies to serve up some grub.



AARON MANNING gives the premier edition of iSPY the thumbs up.



WALTER OSTROWSKI, with Depot Town's City Body, hangs by his car at the first Depot Town Cruise Night. City Body is sponsoring the summer-long event.



Ypsilanti resident JEFF DAVIS, founder of The Full Nelson University, gives his best pro wrestling pose at Depot Town Cruise Nights.



Grooving to CHRIS CANAS BLUES REVOLUTION at the opening night of Crossroads.



FORREST KARNOPP, co-owner of Depot Town's Cafe Luwak, shows off the last bites of his tasty ice cream cone from his own cafe.



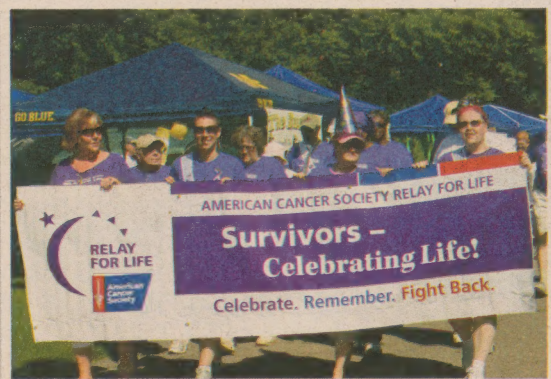
DAVE REIFF, left, and TOM CAMPLIN of Westland show off thier classic cars at Depot Town Cruise Nights.



From left, ALANA BELESKI, LINDA FRENCH, MICKEY ICHESCO, CAROLE CLARE AND BELYNDA DOMAS celebrate the kick-off of Depot Town Cruise Nights.



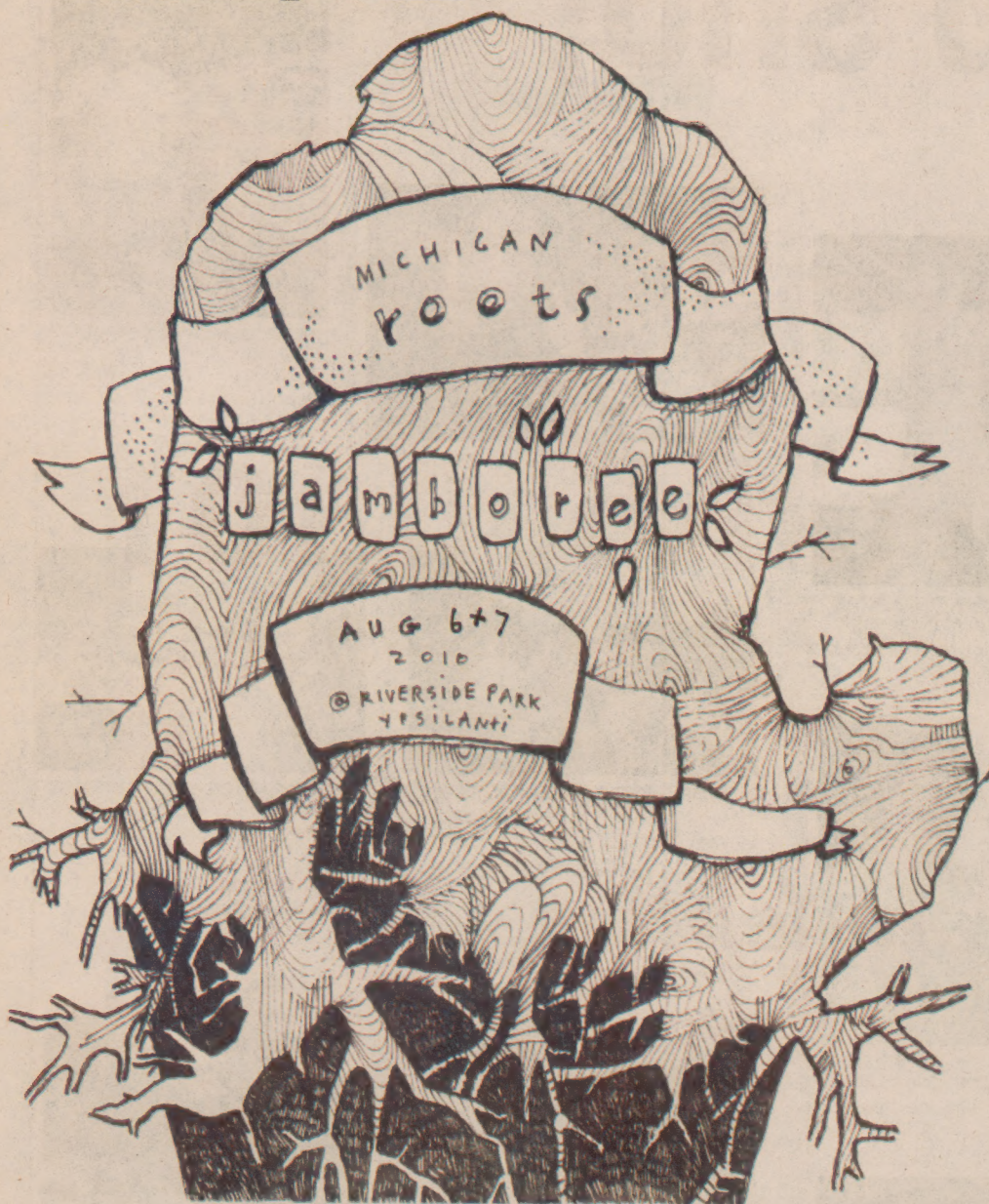
DAN and ANITA LAUTENBACH of Ypsilanti hoist up daughters ANIKA, 5, and JOHANNA, 3, so they can check out the interior of a classic car at the Orphan Car Show.



Surviving in Ypsi - Cancer survivors complete the first lap during RELAY FOR LIFE IN RIVERSIDE PARK.



Deputy City Clerk ED GOLEMBIEWSKI, left, and his dog TED take a walk with JOEL SKENE and his dog WES.



michigan roots jamboree, take 2.

25 ACCLAIMED ARTISTS, URBAN CAMPING AND **JAMBOMAN!**

BY AMANDA SLATER

SUMMER IS IN FULL SWING.

For some, that means plenty of great food, time spent with family, an outdoor concert or two, camping and, perhaps, some day-drinking and, this summer, those attending the Michigan Roots Jamboree Music Festival can experience all of these things (and more) at once, right in the heart of Ypsilanti.

The Michigan Roots Jamboree Music Festival, formerly known as the Jamboree, is famous for its amazing musical acts, talented local artisans and premier beer and food in Riverside Park. However, for its second year, the festival is introducing a new element to the mix: urban camping.

Starting this year, the festival will feature overnight tent-camping on both Aug. 6, and Aug. 7, during which festival-goers can spend two nights in tents under the stars right in the middle of Frog Island Park.

The festival will feature three stages and 25 of the greatest live performers in the country, in what is designed to be a fun, family-friendly environment.

The bands featured are truly some of the best in each of their genres, said Festival Director Don Sicheneder. We got over 100 band submissions this year so I

went through the applications and picked the best ones. A lot of the bands are ones I've worked with before or ones I've seen live before. Some of their [live performances] really impressed me, and some blew me away.

Sicheneder said he first got the idea for the Jamboree while discussing possible festival ideas to raise money to improve local parks and community spaces with friend and Director of the Depot Town Community Development Corporation, Erik Dotzauer.

I'd been doing music all my life and had always wanted to do a music festival, Sicheneder said.

He said the two took the idea and ran with it. After successfully presenting the idea to the non-profit board, the Jamboree was born.

Last year, the festival attracted approximately 2,000 attendees, but this year that number is expected to grow significantly. Among the musical acts the Jamboree has to offer are Ekoostik Hookah, Macpodz, Smokestack, The Mayflies, October Babies, The Ragbirds and UV Hippo.

Sicheneder said all live music fans will enjoy the festival's talented lineup of musicians. However, that's not all that the Jamboree has to offer.

For the kids, there is a children's tent, where kids can do everything from build an instru-

ment to dress up like a rock star and listen to kid-centric bands. For the adults, beer will be available from breweries such as the Arbor Brewing Co. and the Corner Brewery, as well as nationally brewed brands.

I really wanted to bring something like this to the area. We've got such an immense talent base within Washtenaw county and beyond in Michigan, and I think that having a little bit of joy and fun is what people from Michigan need to do and have, Sicheneder said. It's going to be a blast.

The Michigan Roots Jamboree Music Festival will kick off on Aug. 6 and go through Aug. 7. Limited ticket quantities are available. Pre-sale tickets are available online for \$15 per day (tickets purchased at the gate are \$20 per day). Those who wish to camp must purchase a camping pass. Weekend packages with a camping pass are \$50 per person. Children 12 years of age and under will be admitted for free. For more information, visit <http://rootsjamboree.com>.



Football Clinic for Women

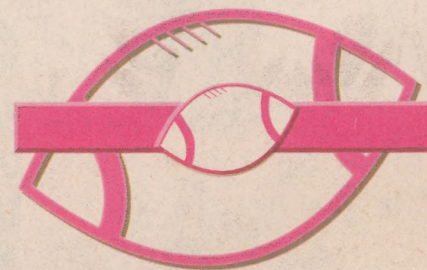
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sneak peek

art, brews, & tunes

YPSILANTI'S OWN **SHADOW ART FAIR**, HELD AT CORNER BREWERY, FOCUSES ON UNUSUAL ART AND LOCAL MUSICIANS.

BY AMANDA SLATER

Where can you go to have your fortune told by a 7-year-old, drink local beer, make a film and build a sculpture to race down the streets of Ypsilanti all in one day? The Shadow Art Fair.

The Shadow Art Fair is a one-day, 12-hour art fair held twice a year at the Corner Brewery that features local music, beer, activities, and (of course) art.

However, when it comes to art fairs, the Shadow Art Fair is one of a kind. It's a juried art fair that invites weird, wacky and interactive art, featuring mostly non-professional artists from Ypsilanti and the surrounding area.

A lot of our artists aren't professional artists, but they're people who are doing art on the side in their spare time, said Mark Maynard, co-founder of the fair. We just want regular people who have interesting ideas and are trying to do stuff with them.

According to Maynard, the Shadow Art Fair was started by five local artists

who wanted to get together the 40 most creative people they knew to display and discuss their art. When the group, called the Michigan Design Militia, was surprised by a turnout of more than 1,000 people, they decided to make the fair a bi-annual event.

People don't really have an opportunity to interact with each other these days, Maynard said. You might go to work, go to Wal-Mart or Kroger, but you don't have a chance to interact in a creative environment.

At this art fair, creativity reigns free. Maynard said, as often as possible, the fair features experiential work that invites spectator participation.

We've had people come in and make documentary films at their booths. We've had people taking pictures of people's feet. We've had a bunch of weird hairstyles, Maynard said.

This year, fair participants will get the opportunity to make a film and later screen it at the fair.



Unlike many other art fairs, the purpose of the Shadow Art Fair isn't to make money although artists may charge a small amount in exchange for their creations. Instead, the purpose of the fair is to give artists a chance to interact with each other and the surrounding community while showcasing their work.

In fact, the founders turned down a national magazine's offer to sponsor the fair and take over the event.

We very much want to keep it local, Maynard said. We don't want to make a lot of money with it. We just want it to be very community focused.

The actual fair is held at the Corner Brewery in Ypsilanti. But other local businesses are joining in on the fun this year.

Spur Studios will feature a DJ and will play host to a sculpture race and Dreamland Theater will be showcasing performance art.

There will be activities for children at the Corner Brewery from noon until 2 p.m. and performances from live bands at the brewery from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Following this, movies that were

created by fair participants during the day will be screened from 9:30 p.m. until the end of the day.

To make it easy for fair-goers to park as well as enjoy the other events taking place in the community, two buses will be circling the city from 6 p.m. to midnight and will make stops at the Corner Brewery, Dreamland Theater, and Spur Studios.

I think that people should come to the Shadow Art Fair and have an unflattering portrait of themselves done by one of the artists that will be there, said co-founder, Molly Mast. I think they should also go to the fortune telling table and have their fortune told by a 7-year-old. I think people should get a cupcake out of the cupcake vending machine and build a sculpture that can race down the street.

Whether you're a regular fair attendee or are checking it out for the first time, the Shadow Art Fair has something for everyone.

The Summer Shadow Art Fair is July 10 from noon until midnight at the Corner Brewery. For more information, visit www.shadowartfair.com.

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worth the journey

'THE HIKER' STANDS AS TRIBUTE
TO SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR VETS

BY LAURA BIEN

A SHIP OF FLOWERS LAY
BEACHED NEAR THE
YPSILANTI DEPOT IN THE
SUMMER OF 1898...

53 feet long, it was a battleship replica built of 117,450 living plants on a sculpted hill of soil. With a hull of lush green ivy, it featured portholes outlined in hen-and-chicks and a bridge made of yellow-flowering sedum.

It was the featured display in the Michigan Central Rail Road gardens once lining the tracks.

Created by garden overseer John Laidlaw, who also managed other MCRR gardens up and down the tracks, the breathtaking ship was a tribute to the battleship USS Maine. The Maine's explosion and sinking earlier that year in Havana Harbor contributed to the United States' entry into the Spanish-American War.

Ypsilanti's ship of flowers so impressed one MCRR bigwig in Chicago that he sent a photographer out to photograph it. The resulting prints were distributed as promotional material by the railroad.

Contrary to local myth, the Ypsilanti MCRR gardens were not the largest or most spectacular on the railway line. However, the ship of flowers received national attention when profiled by the November 1898 issue of Railway Agent and Station Agent monthly magazine. The article appeared near an ad for a handy railman's watch, one for a sturdy depot office desk, and two for artificial limbs.



It is scarcely debatable, noted the magazine, that nowhere else has the Maine been so artistically and effectively remembered as in [this] immense floral replica... This battleship, built of living blossoms, has stood during the summer in the grounds of the Michigan Central Railroad at Ypsilanti, Mich. It has been seen and admired by millions, many persons traveling long distances over the Niagara Falls Route for no other purpose than to see it. And it was worth a long journey to see!

The article continued, The management of the Michigan Central directly and explicitly encourages its agents to brighten and beautify their stations. If they did nothing else in that direction, the exhibits at Ypsilanti would be an incentive and an inspiration.

The writer contemplated another flowery means of transportation. The great industry of railroading need not be associated with smoke and cinders and griminess alone. We cannot have an annual parade of flower-decked trains: the fragile blossoms could not withstand high speed.

The trains were decked with red, white, and blue bunting, however, when local boys shipped out from the downtown interurban station to join the war. As early as 7 o'clock, said the April 28, 1898 Ypsilanti Commercial, crowds began to congregate at the corner of Congress and Washington streets, and as the hour of departure drew near both streets were packed with citizens who turned out to give the local command a fitting farewell. Tops of buildings, the sheds [wooden awnings] in Congress Street, and windows were crowded with people, and every available point of vantage was occupied.

One was occupied by a photographer who snapped a photo that over a century later lies sepia-faded yet still clear in a file in the Ypsilanti Archives.

The war lasted only four months. By the time Laidlaw built his battleship of flowers, peace talks were ongoing. A peace treaty was signed soon after, and the boys came home.

For hours, said the May 20, 1899 Evening Times, before there was any possibility of the company's arriving the streets were dark with people wandering up and down in a state of nervous expectancy. They gazed upon the street and house decorations until they were weary; and there was not even a

runaway, a canine misunderstanding, or a fire to relieve the monotony. The sole occupation consisted in halting all friends and speaking acquaintances and propounding the self-same query When are they going to get here? With the certainty of the laws of gravitation would come the response, You cannot prove it by me, or words to that effect.

Finally the veterans came home.

Laidlaw dismantled his ship. It was the closest thing the vets would get for a memorial for their service for the next four decades.

Over that time, the vets had annual reunions. In 1940, the 41st reunion included a special surprise.

"P. J. Becker, president was the first Spanish War veteran to register in Charles McKenny Hall this morning, said the May 18, 1940 Ypsilanti Daily Press. He was there at eight o'clock and was shaking hands and remembering hosts of men and greeting their wives, making introductions, greeting people and giving information.

Flags at the street line and the entrance to Charles McKenny Hall were a welcoming sight, and many were looking at the swathed statue... on the memorial site.

Dedication ceremonies would soon begin.

Under the shroud was New York sculptor Allen Newman's statue The Hiker, his tribute to the Spanish-American War vets. Hikers was the nickname the soldiers gave themselves, much like WWI doughboys.

Newman based the work, it's said, on an image painted by noted Western artist Frederic Remington. The original sculpture became popular and for some time was adopted as the official symbol of Spanish War veterans. Newman made around 20 copies which stand, among other places, at the University of Pittsburgh, Tompkinsville Park in New York City and Providence, R.I.

Ypsilanti's copy of Newman's The Hiker, installed in 1940, is the last piece of work the sculptor sold, before he died that year. The work stands between Cross Street and Wasthenaw Avenue, west of the water tower, as a tribute to its creator and to the long-ago soldiers who inspired him. And obliquely to the USS Maine, once memorialized in flowers that now, here and there, decorate veterans graves.

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 Theater/Play - 🎭
 Art - 🎨

Submit your event for FREE online at
www.ispypsi.com!
 All events shown are subject to change.



july 1-4

Lake Shore Family Festival
 THE LAKE SHORE APARTMENTS

Located in Ypsilanti Township on beautiful Ford Lake, the Lake Shore facility will host a 4th of July FIREWORKS CELEBRATION that will include 2 nights of on-site fireworks, amusement rides, a petting zoo, circus, classic car show, talent contest, monster truck rides, arts & crafts, on-stage entertainment and much more!

july 1

Lakeshore Celebration
 The Lakeshore Apartments, 5pm-12am



TASHERRE D'ENAJETIC
 Savoy, 9pm-12am



Cruise Nights
 Depot Town, 5pm - 9pm



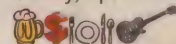
july 2

Lakeshore Celebration
 The Lakeshore Apartments, 2pm-12am



Covert Operations wsg

Baked Potato
 Savoy, 8pm - 12am



First Class Band with
 Martin Simmons
 Crossroads Music Festival, 7pm-10pm

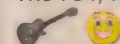


july 3

Lakeshore Celebration
 The Lakeshore Apartments, 2pm-12am



Millenium Artists Solutions
 The 734, 7pm-9pm

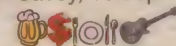


july 4

Lakeshore Celebration
 The Lakeshore Apartments, 2pm-9pm



Todd Osborne
 Savoy, 10:30pm - 2am



july 5

Laith Al-Saadi (in Exile)
 Savoy, 10:30pm-2am



july 6

Shotgun Saints and Lewis
 Vs. Clark
 The 734, 7pm-9pm



Downtown Farmers' Market
 Key Bank Parking Lot, 2pm - 6pm



Motorcycle Mania
 Depot Town, 5pm - 9pm



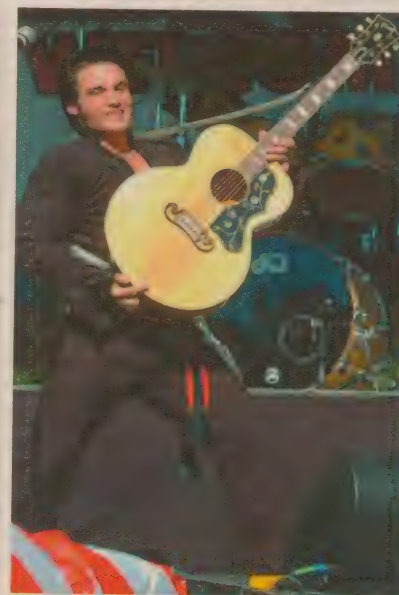
july 7

Leviathin, Silence and Never
 Lose Sight
 The 734, 7pm-9pm



july 8

Cruise Nights
 Depot Town, 5pm - 9pm



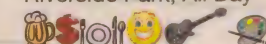
july 9-10

Michigan Elvisfest

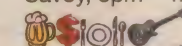
This not a contest but a true concert with spectacular performances, from the first act to the last act, by the best professional Elvis Tribute Artists in North America. The 2010 Festival will be held in shady Riverside Park, on the banks of the Huron River. Fun for Fans, Family and Friends.

july 9

Michigan Elvis Fest
 Riverside Park, All Day



Voodoo Lighthouse
 Savoy, 8pm - 12am



Rattlebox with Six Foot Poles
 and Swaybars
 Crossroads Music Festival, 7pm-10pm



july 10

Shadow Art Fair

The Shadow Art Fair is a juried event that allows local artists to exhibit and sell their works within a comfortable, friendly, and supportive setting. This one-day, 12-hour event is held two times a year at The Corner Brewery in Ypsilanti, Michigan. Local music, featured brews, and other special activities add a distinct flavor and sense of community to this creative showcase.

July 10

Michigan Elvis Fest
Riverside Park, All Day



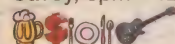
Summer Lounge Series -
The Reunion
Keystone Underground, 9pm-2am



Shadow Art Fair
Corner Brewery, 12pm-12am



Robert Bradley's Blackwater
Surprise wsg FUZE
Savoy, 8pm - 12am



July 11

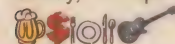
Bike Ypsi Espresso Tour
Bombadill's, 8am - 11am



Galikanokus and Sevenatenine
The 734, 7pm-9pm



Todd Osborne
Savoy, 10:30pm - 2am



July 12

Laith Al-Saadi (in Exile)
Savoy, 10:30pm-2am



July 13

Downtown Farmers' Market
Key Bank Parking Lot, 2pm - 6pm



Motorcycle Mania
Depot Town, 5pm - 9pm



July 15

Detroit Music Festival (Day 1)
The 734, 7pm-9pm



Cruise Nights
Depot Town, 5pm - 9pm



Growing Hope's Ypsi Urban
Farmer Breakfast
Location TBD, 7:30am-8:30am



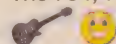
www.ispypsi.com

July 16

Bill Bynum & Co. with Corndad-
dy and Hillrays.
Crossroads Music Festival, 7pm-9pm



Detroit Music Festival (Day 2)
The 734, 7pm-9pm



Ypsilanti Youth Theatre, "No!
NO! A Million Times no! (or
She was only the farmer's
Daughter)
1055 Cornell, Time TBD



July 17

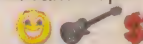
Local Legend night!! Featuring
Dick Siegel Trio with Chris
Bathgate and Jill Jack
Savoy 8pm-12am



Ypsilanti Youth Theatre, "No!
NO! A Million Times no! (or
She was only the farmer's
Daughter)
1055 Cornell, Time TBD



Freedom Jamboree
Ypsilanti Township Community Center,
11am - 6pm



Bike Ypsi MetroParks Rides
Depot Town, 9am - 11:30am



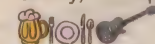
July 18

Todd Osborne
Savoy, 10:30pm - 2am



July 19

Laith Al-Saadi (in Exile)
Savoy, 10:30pm-2am



July 20

Downtown Farmers' Market
Key Bank Parking Lot, 2pm - 6pm



Tour De Fresh - Bicycle Garden
Tour w/Growing Hope
Downtown Farmer's Market, 5:30pm - 8pm



Motorcycle Mania
Depot Town, 5pm - 9pm



July 21

Rat Pad Release
Corner Brewery, 6pm-12am



July 22

Cruise Nights
Depot Town, 5pm - 9pm



One for the Angels
The 734, 7pm-9pm



July 23-24

Michigan Beerfest

The Summer Beer Festival is the Michigan Brewers Guild's oldest and largest of our four annual festivals. The festival takes place outside in a lovely riverside setting and will feature more than 300 different beers from more than 50 different Michigan breweries.

A variety of tasty food items are available for purchase from independent food vendors inside the festival and there will be a diverse selection live music from a variety of local bands.

July 23

13th Annual Beerfest
Riverside Park, 5pm-9pm



Kinetic Stereokids
Savoy, 8pm - 12am



Horse Cave Trio with Tracy
Mack & The Magic Land Band.
Crossroads Music Festival, 7pm-10pm



July 24

13th Annual Beerfest
Riverside Park, 1pm-6pm



Community Records Benefit
Savoy, 1pm - 5pm



Corcid, Diemertus and Infinite
Design
The 734, 7pm-9pm



July 25

Halcyon Sundaze
Corner Brewery, 2pm-?



Todd Osborne
Savoy, 10:30pm - 2am



July 26

Laith Al-Saadi (in Exile)
Savoy, 10:30pm-2am



July 27

Downtown Farmers' Market
Key Bank Parking Lot, 2pm - 6pm



July 29

Cruise Nights
Depot Town, 5pm - 9pm



July 30

Local Villans wsg Baked Potato
Savoy 9pm - Sat, July 31, 12am



Dave Sharp's Secret Seven with
Tracy Kash Thomas.
Crossroads Music Festival, 7pm-10pm



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for the love of beer

BREWER'S GUILD'S SUMMER BEER FESTIVAL ENTERS LUCKY 13TH YEAR

BY MARK TOWER

Leave it to beer to draw nearly 10,000 people and more than 50 small businesses to the shore of the Huron River in Ypsilanti each year on an otherwise uneventful weekend in July.

Now entering into its 13th year, the Michigan Brewer's Guild's Summer Beer Festival is about more than hops and barley, according to the guild's Executive Director, Scott Graham. What draws people of all ages and walks of life to beer and breweries, he said, is an emotional, sometimes romantic, connection that is more about people than about the ales and the lagers they drink.

"There is a diverse flavor and culture around beer," Graham said. "For a long time, people have had different romantic attachments to beer; whether it is a memory of their father or grandfather brewing at home, time spent at their local brewery or from trips abroad."

Local breweries and the micro-brewery sensation that has swept the region and the nation, he said, gives people a community to belong to where one might not exist otherwise, and all this tied together by the beer, the brewers and the subculture created by patrons of these local breweries.

Local. That's what the Michigan Brewer's Guild and its festivals are all about, Graham said. The founders of

the festival, he said, created it as a means to promote Michigan beers and Michigan breweries, as well as forming the biggest fundraising event the not-for-profit brewer's guild holds each year, collecting proceeds through sale of tickets and souvenirs.

The festival grounds are still exclusively open to Michigan breweries, though Graham said it's not hard to still find a variety of beer flavors and brands there, since Michigan ranks sixth in the nation in number of breweries per state, right behind powerhouses of brewing like California and Oregon. The craft beer movement is continuing to grow in Michigan, even faster than the national average.

Michigan outpaces the national trend, he said. Craft beer is certainly the most exciting and dynamic segment of beer nationally.

More than 50 Michigan breweries are expected to turn out for this summer's festival, offering festival-goers swigs of more than 300 different kinds of brew.

It's part of what's unique about it, Graham said. There are so many great breweries here in Michigan.

Luckily for beer lovers in Ypsilanti and its surrounding communities, that festival celebrating local brewers and entrepre-

neurship calls Riverside Park home. This summer's festival, which will take place rain or shine, will run from 5-9 p.m. on July 23, and from 1-6 p.m. on July 24.

After outgrowing its former home in Livonia in the festival's third year, it first moved to Frog Island Park in Ypsilanti before crossing the river via Ypsi's famous Tridge and settling at its new home in Riverside Park. The brewer's guild has no intention of leaving Riverside or Ypsilanti anytime soon, according to Graham.

"We are now very happy to call Ypsilanti home," he said. "We were happy to find such a good location, and such a fun and receptive community. We are not looking to move around, it's painful for us and our guests who plan for it."

Riverside still has room for future expansion, Graham said, and Frog Island Park may eventually provide overflow space for the continuously growing celebration of frothy beverages. This year's festival will also feature a slight increase in food vendors, live local and varied entertainers and, of course, the beer.

Tickets, which are \$30 for Friday and \$35 for Saturday in advance and \$5 more for each day at the gate (if they are still available), went on sale May 1 and can be purchased online at www.michigan-brewersguild.org or at breweries and other businesses across the state.

A complete list of ticket sale locations can be found on the brewer's guild's blog at www.mbgmash.org, and include local businesses like Corner Brewery, Side-track Bar & Grille and Aubree's In Depot Town in Ypsilanti, and Arbor Brewing Company and Grizzly Peak in Ann Arbor.

Admission tickets include 15 drink tokens, each of which can be redeemed for a 3 ounce sample of beer. Additional tokens are available inside the festival grounds for 50 cents a piece.

About 8,000 tickets were sold for 2009's festival, though attendance totaled more with promotional and media entry passes and the employees of all the breweries. This year, the brewer's guild will be increasing the number of tickets sold to 9,000, though they still expect to sell out the very popular event before the gates open Friday evening.

So, whether your love of beer stems from a distant memory of your grandfather's basement brew or just for an abiding passion for blowing the froth of a sweaty mug of suds, Ypsilanti's Summer Beer Festival is likely the perfect place to celebrate beer and the unique community and culture that surrounds it.



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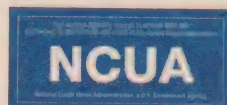
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the buzz on bees & chicks

YPSILANTIANS WELCOME URBAN CHICKENS, BEES

BY MARK TOWER



{ WELCOME TO YPSILANTI,
HOME OF EMUS & CHICKENS
AND BEES, OH MY. }

Well, that first one is fictional, unless certain rabid petitioners who want to change Eastern Michigan University's mascot get their way. But, urban chickens and bees are indeed a reality in the city of Ypsilanti.

It's been exactly one year since Ypsilanti City Council approved an ordinance which allows residents to apply for permits to keep chickens on their property within city limits, and last December saw another ordinance go into effect allowing beekeeping among its citizenry.

Normal Park resident and aspiring chicken owner Terry Carpenter said that although the move toward urban farming may add fuel to the fire of the debate over whether or not Ypsitucky is an appropriate designation for the area, it is a step forward for a revolution of community partnership and sustainable living that will become increasingly necessary as the state and local economies morph in coming years.

Carpenter, a teacher facing looming layoffs, has expanded his garden and begun building a chicken coop in his backyard, partially to ensure the quality of fruits, vegetables and eggs he feeds his family, and partly to have a sustainable food source to lean back on in the unsure times ahead.

Growing as much as we can is a good idea, he said. If things happen like I think they are going to happen, everybody is going to want to have a garden and chickens.

Simple survival is one of the big motivations for one of Carpenter's neighbors

as well. Natalie Holbrook has begun raising both bees and chickens on her property with a mind toward producing food to take the pressure off a broken agricultural system.

"Survival is really a lost art, and we need to be recovering those skills," Holbrook said. "I think we should be trying to grow our own food as much as possible."

Her chickens produce three to four eggs each day, an excess she said allows her to trade for other foods she cannot grow in her garden, and allows her to give something back to people that do something nice for her.

"It's really cool to share the eggs with folks," she said. A few neighbors in a nearby apartment complex are learning from Holbrook how to keep the chickens, an example of the person-to-person teaching she feels is so important.

"They are kind of the highlight of the neighborhood," she said. "Everybody has been pretty cool about them. They are more of a conversational piece than anything."

As well as feeding her household's desire for honey and boosting the severely crippled honey bee population in Michigan, keeping bees allows Holbrook to make lip balms and other homemade products from the beeswax.

Composting the organic waste from the food eaten at her home, as well as feces from her chickens, creates a very fertile garden soil to grow crops, she said, and helps her be as cyclical as possible in her lifestyle.

Creating community and sharing skills and knowledge is another big reason community agriculture is so important, Holbrook said.

"It's really a neat learning experience," she said of working with others to learn how to keep bees. "It's a great community of people, and it's really fun."

Stacey Fallis, another Normal Park neighborhood resident, said she got her first bees in May and started volunteering with the Ypsilanti Food Co-op's Local Honey Project to get hands-on experience.

"It's been helpful," she said of volunteering at the project's hives located at The Farm at St. Joseph Hospital, Growing Hope and the Ypsilanti Food Co-op.

Fallis said she is motivated by two factors. One, she loves honey, especially in her morning cup of coffee. Secondly, she became aware of the peril honey bees are in and wanted to do something to

promote the survival of bees.

Lisa Bashert, coordinator and beekeeper for the Local Honey Project, said the current set-up of commercial agriculture is the most likely culprit for the rapid decline in honey bee populations in the nation.

Since honey bees are used widely to pollinate many different food crops, she said, hives are trucked around the country and left in vast fields, which can stress the bees and actually work them to death. The lack of variety in diet brought by this method, coupled with chemical fertilizers and pesticides that can harm and even confuse bees so they can't find their way home, could explain the high rate of mortality in bees, according to Bashert.

"A commonly quoted statistic is that one out of every three bites on your plate is pollinated by a honeybee," she said. "That means that without the honey bee we are really in big, big trouble. Restoring their health is really important."

After being reported for keeping bees on her property in the Normal Park neighborhood, Bashert was instrumental in educating city leaders and getting the beekeeping ordinance passed by City Council. Now, the local food cooperative has joined the cause by sponsoring five hives in three locations around the city, aimed mostly at educating residents and spreading the word about urban beekeeping.

Fallis and about 15 volunteers have built the hives by hand and are learning by doing, with honey already being produced by the Michigan-adapted survivor honey bees populating the hives.

"We are learning as we go," Bashert said. She said she hopes to have enough honey to sell this year from the hives, which would be available for purchase at the Ypsilanti Food Co-op.

Whether it be chickens or bees, Carpenter said he thinks the revolution of urban farming in Ypsilanti will be instrumental in the unavoidable transition off oil in America and will help grow stronger communities at the same time.

"Knowing how to grow your own food will make communities more resilient," he said. "I think that ultimately it will be a good thing, creating more local jobs and a better sense of community. One of the coolest things is how many people I don't even know who have asked me about this chicken coop I'm building. Nobody is a neighbor if they aren't talking to each other."

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elvis lives in ypsilanti

LOCAL FESTIVAL COMMEMORATES 'THE KING'

BY AMANDA SLATER

EACH SUMMER "THE KING" HIMSELF CAN BE SEEN ROAMING THE STREETS OF YPSILANTI.

In fact, there are numerous Elvis sightings reported in the Ypsilanti area within the same two-day period every year. This period is known as the Michigan Elvisfest.

The Michigan Elvisfest is a two-day concert featuring some of the best professional Elvis tribute artists in North America. Now in its 11th year, Elvisfest has been dubbed one of the best music festivals in the Midwest by the Chicago Tribune and has become a beloved Ypsilanti tradition, attracting as many as 8,500 attendees a year.

Although stories vary regarding the festival's origin, Mary Decker, director of Elvisfest, said her favorite version involves a group of women sitting around having tea and deciding what kind of attraction they could bring to the Ypsilanti area that would be enjoyed by their family and friends.

Someone suggested Elvis. They found a gentleman who [was an Elvis tribute artist] that lived close by and knew a lot of other Elvises, and it kind of went from there, Decker said.

Now the event has grown to a two-day festival that incorporates a number of award-winning Elvis tribute artists, as well as some friends of Elvis tribute artists, including Johnny Cash and Buddy Holly. Decker said, overall, the Elvis tribute artists featured seem to be humble individu-

als who know that they're not Elvis, but love to perform their tribute to him.

The festival is run entirely by volunteers who organize the event as well as choose the performers based on scouting and referrals.

"We first saw one of our Elvises at a concert in Indiana," said Decker, sharing one of her favorite Elvis stories.

He was singing on stage and moving around, doing his Elvis moves, when, all of a sudden, he lost his wig and it went flying into the crowd. But he recovered so well. He just kept on going. We loved him for that, and it showed that he could handle any situation. We've had him at our show ever since.

In addition to plenty of Elvis music, the festival offers a kids' activity area as well as a variety of vendors that sell everything from Elvis merchandise to an array of delicious food.

According to Decker, the festival is the perfect family activity.

It's in a beautiful park, it doesn't cost a lot of money and it's always a great time," said Decker.

Attendees are permitted to bring lawn chairs and coolers as long as they don't contain any glass bottles or alcohol. Those who purchase their tickets in advance will receive a \$5 discount.

It's family-fun entertainment," said Decker. "You don't even have to be an Elvis fan—you will enjoy it whether you are or aren't a fan. And, if you're not, after the festival is over you are sure to be one and to come back again."

The 2010 Michigan Elvisfest will be held from 5 p.m. to midnight on July 9,



and from noon to midnight on July 10, in Riverside Park.

Admission at the gate is \$15 per person on July 9 and \$25 on July 10. Children 12 years of age and younger will be admitted for free. Senior discounts are available at the gate.

Tickets can be purchased at the Ypsilanti Township Community Center, Clover Computers, Aubree's Pizzeria and Tavern and the Ypsilanti Area Convention Bureau. For more information, or to purchase tickets online, visit www.mielvisfest.org.

weed for those in need

DOWNTOWN MARIJUANA DISPENSARY AIMS TO HELP PATIENTS

BY MARK TOWER



in the thousands. About 50-60 people are in and out of the center on an average day, according to Stavros.

The secondary goal of the compassion center is educating the public and traveling around to municipal governments to discuss the new law and the resulting industry.

You have got decades of the government telling you how bad this stuff is, he said. That's why we are traveling around to the different municipalities.

One of the first things Stavros and others from the business did immediately was to invite Ypsilanti City Council members, city staff and other community leaders to take tours of the facility and talk about what they are trying to do.

He said the response from neighbors and city officials has been largely positive, and attributes it mainly to the commerce the company's patrons bring into the community.

Abe's Coney Island and Pub 13 have both told us that food sales went up after we opened our doors, Stavros said. We bring a lot of business to this town.

Stealth Hydro in Depot Town, a store that sells hydroponic growing supplies that can be used by medical marijuana patients and caregivers as well as traditional horticulturists, also has reported to Stavros that many of his patients make a stop at the store while they are in town.

Stavros, who has lived in Ypsilanti since 1985, said he and other business partners purposely chose Ypsilanti as the place to launch the compassion center because he wants to help encourage local business.

I have a heart in Ypsi, Stavros said. I want to see it survive.

Stewart Beal, a local developer who owns property next door to the compassion center, has previously commented to Stavros and others that he is happy to see well-run business coming into the property.

Because many of the patients who frequent the compassion center are from other areas in the region, and because very few such clubs have yet to open their doors in Michigan, Stavros said that business brought to local restaurants, gas stations and shops is a big contribution.

WITH THE LEGALIZATION OF MEDICAL MARIJUANA IN MICHIGAN, PASSED BY VOTERS IN NOV. 2008, MANY MAY VIEW THE CAREGIVER CLUBS AND MARIJUANA DISPENSARIES THAT HAVE SPRUNG UP AROUND THE STATE AS MERELY AN ATTEMPT BY ADVOCATES OF THE DRUG TO FIND A LEGAL WAY TO "GET HIGH."

Darrell Stavros, the business manager of Third Coast Compassion Center in Ypsilanti, one of the first of such dispensaries to do business under the new law, said their goal is quite to the contrary.

Changing the perceptions of Americans is one of our goals, Stavros said. As a whole, though, we just want to help people.

The compassion center, one of the first of its kind in Michigan, is located on the intersection of Pearl and Hamilton Streets near downtown Ypsilanti, in the building that served as a headquarters for Girl Scouts of America for 25 years.

Now the club offers qualifying patients consultations, smokable medicines, edibles, oils, topical medicines, club meetings, speakers, educational op-

portunities and environments to medicate for those who don't feel comfortable using marijuana in their homes.

Here they have a sense of belonging, Stavros said. They can come here if they don't feel comfortable medicating in their homes.

The medicinal properties of marijuana have proven, he said, to help patients with a variety of conditions, many of whom cannot find relief from pain, nausea and other symptoms through traditional medicines.

There are healing elements in just about everything, Stavros said.

Since the compassion center first opened in January, he said he has already accumulated hundreds of stories from grateful patients who feel they have no other options.

The patients, he said, are not the young dope-smokers one might expect. All patients are double-checked to be legitimate, card-carrying medical marijuana patients, and the average age of the clientele is probably closer to mid-40s, Stavros said.

"It's not what you think – a bunch of kids coming here to get high," he said.

One patient with Chronic disease who couldn't use any form of opiates for pain management, Stavros said, found relief through a topical product, where hemp-based lotions are applied directly to the skin.

Another patient, a 14-year-old girl, was put on oxycodone after a car accident and their parents said the person they were living with was no longer their daughter, according to Stavros. He said medical marijuana was able to provide her with the relief without drastic side-effects.

Stavros said his own mother is suffering with cancer and it is difficult for him to visit her and see the pain she is in and the catatonic state that results from the various medications she is on. Although he cannot convince her that marijuana is a viable option, he remains hopeful he will be able to in the future.

The compassion center employs about 11 people, and Stavros said their number of registered patients has grown from 100 when they first opened to now numbering

scene

Of the money brought in by donation, which is how patients pay for treatment at the compassion center, the business pays some out for expenses, donates some to local organizations and politicians and funds programs like the educational outreach to municipalities, the new caregivers cup first held late last year and a fellowship program for potential new compassion clubs.

We are not trying to be multi-millionaires, but we do want to survive, Stavros said. "We haven't shown any profits yet. We are trying to give back as much as we can.

The fellowship program attempts to take aspiring entrepreneurs and philanthropists under the arm of the established center, creating a sort of franchised compassion center in other areas, though Stavros said it would not technically be a franchise.

We can help other organizations open up elsewhere because of our extensive experience with other municipalities, he said.

We have met with over 100 municipalities in the past few months.

Under the new Michigan law legalizing medical marijuana, caregivers certified by the state who are marijuana patients themselves are allowed to grow up to 72 plants and keep up to 15 ounces of harvested marijuana in an enclosed, locked facility at any one time.

To operate within this law, Third Coast Compassion Center employs two bud tenders, who volunteered for the post

at first, and keep the product possessed by the two of them in separate and locked locations.

Security is a major concern in running a successful dispensary, and Ypsilanti's compassion center boasts eight security cameras, keypad entry doors and a security system to make sure only those granted access can get to certain areas of the club.

Though Stavros said he never expected to work in a business that sells marijuana, and in fact never tried the drug before he joined the business, he said it has been very rewarding to hear how much the center is able to help patients.

Seeing the people's faces that you have helped, he said. It's so rewarding.

Stavros said the next step in their educational efforts is to open a dialog with Ypsilanti's city police force. When police officers were interviewing a subject in an unrelated incident outside the club, they asked the person to see their marijuana patient card because they were unfamiliar with what they looked like.

We have to get the police force educated, there is no education for them right now on this issue, Stavros said.

Through the fellowship program, he said other compassion centers should be expected to open their doors in cities including Detroit, Jackson, Kalamazoo, Port Huron, Waterford and Cheboygan.

INTRODUCING THE MICROSOFT KIN

people still use myspace?

BY TIM ADKINS

THE BEST AND COOLEST PART ABOUT THIS PHONE IS THE PACKAGING AND BOX IT COMES IN.

I could stop this review now and you'd get the point, but I'll elaborate for the sake of those under the age of 21 who may be interested in getting a Kin for their next phone.

The Kin is positioned to be used for a hub of sorts for all your social networking. The little guy allows you to drag your friends' posts into one spot, then share them across your networks.

On the surface, it's a pretty unique and good idea, but the problem is the social networks allowed are only Facebook, Twitter, MySpace and Windows Live. If you wanted to post something on Tumblr, YouTube, etc. you're out of luck.

Honestly, I can handle the given social networks to share with, but my biggest issue with this phone is the lack of user friendliness and it was really slow when navigating from screen to screen. I feel like this phone is for a younger generation, like I mentioned earlier, high school kids or younger and yet there was no Web 2.0 feel. No rounded corners within applications or bright colors to catch my attention and I felt a little lost at times like I didn't know what I was doing.

Apparently I'm not the only one who feels that way because the Kin also comes with a Help application that takes you to their site's help page.



Those were my issues with the phone, however there were some pretty decent features that I actually did like. There's a smile button for quick smiles. Similar to the Palm Pre, it has the touch screen with the full slider keyboard. And the camera was pretty easy to use and share pictures with.

It's compatibility made it perfect for a Bat Phone. Yes, like my dear friend Ari Gold, you too could have a Bat Phone to stick in your sock as a backup in case one phone isn't enough.



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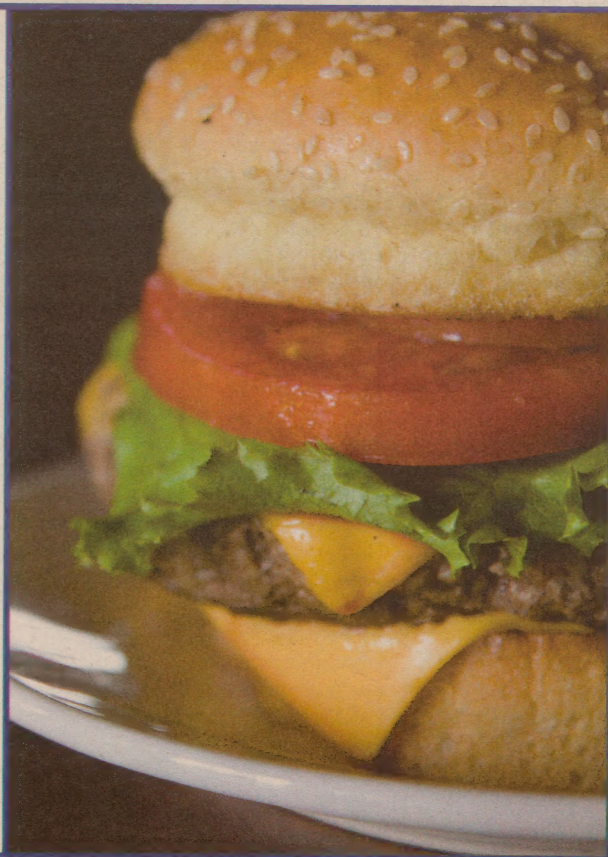
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SATURDAY
1~6 PM

RIVERSIDE PARK, DEPOT TOWN, YPSILANTI, MI
JULY 23~24, 2010

michiganbrewersguild.org

Ypsilanti's event ordinance Section 10-288(c) prohibits the following within the special event area: dogs (except service dogs), horses, farm animals, uncaged domestic animals, snakes, exotic animals, bicycles, skateboards, roller-skates, rollerblades, and glass containers.



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